

07/11/96

Monday January 15 1996

Alex Dabshi 1.50	Hong Kong HKS 2.5	Pakistan R 70
Albania L 2.50	Indonesia 1.00	Poland 1.00
Andorra FF 10	Ireland 1.00	Portugal E 2.00
Austria S 13	India RS 55	Romania R 1.50
Bahrain BD 0.80	Italy L 2.00	Russia R 5.00
Belgium BF 60	Jordan JD 1.00	Small Arab R 1.00
Bulgaria 1.70	Kuwait KD 0.50	Slovakia SK 1.50
Croatia KM 12.50	Latvia LS 2.00	Spain P 2.00
Cyprus 1.00	Lithuania US 1.50	Slovenia SI 1.50
Czech Republic KC45	Madagascar M 5.00	Switzerland SF 3.00
Denmark DK 15	Malta ML 0.45	Thailand B 80
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# The Guardian

INTERNATIONAL  
NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR  
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When fact catches up with fiction

## Leaving Las Vegas

G2 with European weather

Arthur Scargill on his new party

## Leaving Labour

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Media

## Exclusive! Interview with Kelvin MacKenzie

G2 pages 8/9

# Jails fury as 3,000 jobs axed

### Governors fear rise in tensions

Alan Travis  
Home Affairs Editor

**A**FRESH political crisis broke over the prison service yesterday after it was disclosed that nearly 3,000 jobs are to go to meet Treasury cuts in funding over the next three years.



have to make sure that we provide as much protection as possible for those parts of the regime that do help with rehabilitation." He said he had been discussing with unions since early December the likely effects. "We have to look at each establishment to see what the effects are and come to sensible conclusions."

Mr Tilt said he had specific extra money from the Treasury to meet the demands for extra accommodation through the rapid growth in the prison population.

The scale of job losses being sought in the 40,000 prison workforce shocked prison governors and staff yesterday. Governors will be told later this week exactly how much they need to cut from their budgets.

Richard Tilt, acting Director-General, stressed yesterday in an interview on BBC Radio's *The World This Week* that the Prison Service had to find a way of implementing a Treasury-agreed reduction of 13.3 per cent. "It will be difficult," he said. "It is too soon to say what size of reduction is necessary to prevent tensions but we certainly expect some reduction to occur over the next three years."

A voluntary redundancy package with ex-gratia payments of around £5,000 is expected to be targeted at staff aged over 50.

Opposition politicians, prison governors and penal reformers all expressed fears yesterday that the job losses will increase tensions inside Britain's 136 prisons and lead to the erosion of regimes designed to prevent criminals re-offending at a time when the prison population is about to reach a record 53,000 and is rising at 100 a week.

John Marriott, the former Governor of Parkhurst, said on the same programme that he believed the job cuts were another example of a knee-jerk reaction to the problems the Prison Service was facing

and cited the example of the need to rush 50 extra staff to Holloway Prison a fortnight ago as an example.

Internal prison service documents have shown that ministers are preparing to abandon some of the key objectives set by Lord Woolf after the Strangeways riots, and to cut the time spent out of cell by each inmate from 12 hours to eight. Three low-security prisons face closure, and 120 probation jobs and an unspecified number in prison education will be lost.

As the *Guardian* disclosed last month, Ann Widdecombe, the Prisons Minister, decided the cost reductions should go ahead in public sector jails after being told new private prisons in England were 15 to 25 per cent cheaper to run.

Mr Tilt, who has warned the Prison Service that regimes are likely to be affected, said yesterday that the priority had to be to maintain proper control and good order in prisons.

The first thing I think is the safety of staff and prisoners, but clearly security is also an important consideration for us, after that I have said to governors that we



Some of an estimated 10,000 volunteers who yesterday joined police for a six-hour search of countryside near Bristol for clues to the disappearance of Louise Smith, aged 18, last seen leaving a club in Yate, near Bristol, on Christmas Eve. Officers with tracker dogs led the hunt PHOTOGRAPH: JEFF MORGAN

# Thai monk admits killing Briton

### Woman's murder highlights dangers of backpacker tourism

Nick Cumming-Bruce in Bangkok and Owen Bowcott

**A** BUDDHIST monk confessed yesterday to murdering Johanne Masheder from Wincle, Cheshire, after police found her body hidden in a cave near a temple at one of Thailand's most popular tourist destinations.

Masheder had been missing since falling to catch a flight back to Britain on December 21 at the end of a four-month journey around the world.

She is the third Briton to have been murdered abroad already this year — heightening concerns about the safety of backpacker tourism. In Thailand itself, the killing has focused attention on the less-than-savvy behaviour of some Buddhist monks.

Thailand police yesterday charged Yodchat Suapoo, aged 21, with Ms Masheder's murder after he had admitted robbing her of a camera and \$15 in cash.

Suapoo, who lived in a monastery in the western town of Kanchanaburi, had confessed to hitting Ms Masheder on the head and pushing her over the edge of a ravine, but denied sexual assault.



Johanne Masheder: dead for several weeks



Yodchat Suapoo: confessed to killing

A local police officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Apichit Thianpermpool, said Suapoo was an amphetamine addict who used the stolen money to buy drugs, and had previously spent several years in jail for rape. He had joined the monastery eight months earlier, after his release.

Kanchanaburi is a tourist destination close to the railway built by Allied prisoners during the second world war. Forensic tests suggested Ms Masheder had been dead for several weeks. The motorbike she had rented lay in tall grass nearby. Her body was sent to Bangkok for an autopsy.

A newly-qualified solicitor, Ms Macleod has been on the final stage of a backpacking holiday which took in Canada, Fiji, Australia and New Zealand, and was due to take up her first job with a London law firm early this year.



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# Elite forces prepare for Chechen showdown

James Meek in Sovetskoye, Dagestan

**R**USSIAN special forces made large-scale movements last night around the village of Pervomayskaya, where Chechen rebels are holding more than 100 hostages, and security chiefs flew to the spot to make a decision on whether to storm it.

The Chechens, thought to number at least 150, have been holding more than 100 people hostage in the village since Wednesday.

The FSB spokesman, General Mikhailov, said a decree by President Boris Yeltsin offering an amnesty to Chechen rebels who laid down their weapons would still apply to any separatists who surrendered — except Mr Raduyev himself.

Later, a Russian interior ministry official said: "A night will be allowed [to the Chechens] for thinking things over." But all the signs on the ground seemed to indicate that for Moscow — if not the Chechens — the moment of

decision was imminent. Last night, the local parliament in Dagestan was meeting in emergency session, and appealed to the Russians not to storm the village.

Any attack on the village which had a hope of saving any of the hostages' lives would have to be carried out mainly by footsoldiers.

# Exiled Saudi dissidents seek television licence

Seumas Milne

**T**HE Government faces a fresh embarrassment over the Saudi opposition leader, Mohammed al-Mas'ari, as it emerged that his supporters are to apply today for a television licence to broadcast anti-regime polemics into Saudi Arabia.

The Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights, the dissident group led by Mr al-Mas'ari, is also understood to have taken delivery of radio transmitter equipment last week and to be ready to begin broadcasts from London in the next couple of weeks.

Sa'ad Fagih, CDLR secretary, said last night that a company belonging to the organisation would today apply to the Independent Television Commission through its lawyer for a television licence.

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No. 8021

Las Vegas sketch

A tacky bow to the king of kitsch



Jonathan Freedland

IN LAS Vegas the competition is fierce, but few could challenge the claim of the Liberace Museum to be the tackiest place in the tackiest town in all the world.

You know you're there when you spot the two sleek, china dogs standing guard in the foyer — both mementoes from the Cloisters, the Palm Springs Hacienda Liberace used to call home.

The room is dominated by the Liberace auto collection, including a rhinestone-covered Rolls-Royce, another Roller done up like the American flag, with rhinestones for the stars, and a Volkswagen-Rolls hybrid in rhinestones and pink.

Liberace liked rhinestones. There's one the size of a football, donated from Barron Hilton, on show in the Jewellery Gallery. Close by is the 22 carat sapphire which purports to be a gift from the Queen of England.

There is a patriotic flavour to the whole place, and not just from the stars and stripes hot pants. Wladziu Liberace's journey from humble Polish immigrant to world's highest paid musician is the classic rags-to-rhinestones story.

First comes the Main Museum, housing the Piano, Car and Celebrity galleries. Visitors can marvel at the master pianist's collection of 18 rars and customised instruments.

First night

Lost in a wood of fuzzy ideas

Andrew Clements

SCOTTISH Opera enter 1996 in the knowledge that the coming year will, in the words of its general director, Richard Jarman, make or break the company.

There has been little obvious attempt to make either Bradshaw or Smith look child-like; Hansel affects a gawky manish gait, Gretel wears a costume that emphasises her figure, so that she could just as easily be playing her mother.

Under Guido Ajmone-Marsan, the score, one of the most deft and magical in the repertory, is presented by the Scottish Opera Orchestra with a careful sense of scale and a nicely judged array of fine detail.

MPs' inquiry to put lottery jackpots under scrutiny

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

THE National Lottery is to be the subject of a full inquiry by the National Heritage select committee, its chairman Gerald Kaufman said yesterday.

playing extensive soft focus and air brush work. Besides correspondence with Lyndon Johnson and a stay with Ronald Reagan, the bulk of the exhibits recall long-forgotten cronies, comedians and Vegas hangers-on.

Devoles of the man they used to call Mr Showmanship have constructed nothing less than a palace of kitsch, in three packed wings. The fact that the entire complex is located near the airport in several chunks of a shopping mall, separated by a 7-Eleven store and a Middle Eastern deli, only enhances the effect.

Not all the visitors, said to total 150,000 a year, are blarneyed faithful. The museum has attracted a different kind of customer, present all over Las Vegas: the irony tourist.

Josephine Bouzis, whose son Andreas collapsed at the Club UK nightclub in Wandsworth, London, told a Scotland Yard press conference yesterday.

Ms Bouzis, who was born in Spain, wept as she said: "One Friday he went to a club just as your child may have done. Now he is dead. He is gone for ever. I cannot describe our feelings, everything we have had over the last 19 years has been taken away."

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Savers stand to pick up £800 bonus as building society joins rush to sell shares on Stock Exchange

Alliance set for flotation

MORE than three million savers at the Alliance & Leicester stand to pick up an average £800 free-share bonanza as the high street financial giant prepares to announce early next month that it will become the next building society to seek a stock market quote.

The move, following last week's flotation announcement by the Woolwich, will see it joining a growing list of building societies selling their shares on the Stock Exchange.

Speculation about the Alliance's intentions has been growing since it increased the minimum investment needed to open a share account to £5,000 last month.

Share accounts in order to receive the voting rights needed to qualify for a windfall should the society convert to a bank or merge with another society.

The Woolwich has refused to offer share perks to savers registered after the end of last year, to the disappointment of more than 40,000 speculative investors who opened accounts in the new year.

The Alliance & Leicester is expected to have the same December 31 cut-off date, which like the Woolwich marks the end of its financial year.



Angella Johnson

Ecstasy claims another young victim

FRESH warnings were issued last night about the dangers of taking ecstasy following the death of a 19-year-old who collapsed after taking the drug in a nightclub — the second teenager to die in less than two months.

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Ms Bouzis, who was born in Spain, wept as she said: "One Friday he went to a club just as your child may have done. Now he is dead. He is gone for ever. I cannot describe our feelings, everything we have had over the last 19 years has been taken away."



Andreas Bouzis: collapsed after taking one £10 tablet

ings, everything we have had over the last 19 years has been taken away." Mr Georgiou, aged 19, who was at Club UK with Andreas on Friday, delivered a stark warning to other youths: "Due to one ecstasy tablet that cost just £10, my best friend has lost his life. Anyone who goes clubbing can understand the pressure of taking

them. But it's not worth it, it really isn't." The death of Leah Betts from Essex after taking one tablet at her 18th birthday party in November fired the debate about ecstasy. It hit the headlines again when Helen Cousins, aged 19, from Peterborough, almost died after taking one tablet.

day's press conference that he had no evidence Andreas had taken any drugs before, but confirmed the teenager had a weak heart. Police visited the club on Saturday and arrested a man who was later charged with possession with intent to supply drugs.

Red faces over rail freight deal

Richard Thomas

THE Government yesterday suffered a big embarrassment over its insistence that rail privatisation would lead to after it was revealed that a US consortium is poised to take over all three of British Rail's freight operations.

Labour seized on news that a consortium led by Illinois-based Wisconsin Central Transportation Corporation was set to take over BR's freight operations, accusing the Conservatives of establishing a private sector monopoly and endangering jobs.

Chechen showdown looms

Continued from page 1

The Russians face a large group of experienced, fearless and heavily armed guerrillas who have little to lose. Security services have reportedly intercepted satellite phone conversations between the rebels and the separatist leader within Chechnya, Dzhokhar Dudayev, in which he is said to have told them to disregard the safety of the hostages and fight to the last man.

Tory tax share 'outdoes Labour'

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

THE Government's tax take as a proportion of national income has been higher than under the last Labour administration in all but one of the past 16 years, according to figures supplied by the House of Commons library to Labour MP Hugh Bayley.

Tax receipts

Table with 5 columns: Year, Income tax, Social security, VAT, Total receipts, and % of GDP. Rows range from 1979/80 to 1994/95.

However, it will be less easy for Central Office ideologically to dismiss figures showing that the Tories have taken more of the national income in tax than did the Callaghan administration.

These show that when Labour was in office, central government taxation took 34.3 per cent of the country's Gross Domestic Product. Under the Tories the tax burden has averaged 37.3 per cent of GDP.

Mr Bayley said yesterday: "The higher taxes levied by the Tories have been used to pay for the billions they have wasted on failed policies like the poll tax and rail privatisation."

GET THE CASH AND YOU CAN DRIVE A BETTER BARGAIN. Advertisement for Abbey National bank.

Advertisement for Abbey National bank, including contact information and a small illustration of a person.

Copy 10150

The Guardian Monday January 15 1996  
Shares on Stock Exchange  
ation

Pop stars set bandwagon rolling • New group used as weapon against PR • Confusion over Labour leader's big idea



Bill Clinton on saxophone at a 1992 rally. The votes campaign originated in the US

Rocking the young into vote awareness

Alex Bellos on a large-scale music industry initiative

POP bands, record companies and nightclubs are supporting a high-profile drive to get more young people to vote, in a campaign which will potentially be a big electoral gift to the Labour Party. Rock the Vote aims to copy the US campaign of the same name, which registered 350,000 new voters for the 1992 election and helped reverse a 20-year trend of declining political participation among 18 to 24-year-olds. Rock the Vote UK will enlist the help of pop stars to promote awareness of politics and aims to culminate in a Band Aid-style concert in the run-up to the next election. Blur's lead singer, Damon Albarn, is the biggest name so far to pledge support. Adverts in youth magazines and on television will encourage young people to register and then use their vote. They will try to combat a disillusionment with British politics which resulted in 40 per cent of 18 to 25-year-olds not voting at the last election — either because of non-registration or apathy — compared with about 22 per cent of the population as a whole. "There is a sense in which young people are not as involved in their country as they should be. Getting



Blur's lead singer, Damon Albarn, who has pledged support PHOTOGRAPH: ALEX MACNAUGHTON

Blair woos industry on stakeholding

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

LABOUR leader Tony Blair yesterday sought to allay business fears that his plans for a stakeholder economy implied a raft of new corporatist legislation, including granting new rights to employees or imposing onerous new duties on shareholders. Under pressure from Conservative Party chairman Brian Mawhinney to spell out the policy implications of stakeholding for companies, Mr Blair confused some on the left by promising his big idea did not require new laws. But it emerged yesterday that two internal Labour working parties — one on corporate taxation chaired by the shadow chief secretary Andrew Smith and another on corporate governance chaired by the shadow industry secretary, Margaret Beckett — are close to completing detailed plans designed to broaden corporate responsibility, some of which have legislative implications. The groups have been looking at offering tax breaks for pension funds that maintain investment in companies long-term, and tax incentives for companies favouring investment over dividends. The study groups are also looking at a greater role for non-executive directors, restrictions on takeover bids, boardroom seats for company suppliers, greater employee share ownership and possibly requiring institutional investors to vote at annual shareholder meetings. The overall aim, front bench sources insisted yesterday, was to encourage a cultural shift away from short-termism, rather than to impose new regulations. Speaking on BBC TV's Frost programme, Mr Blair insisted that the slogan stakeholder economy in itself did not signal a radical new policy departure for Labour, but instead an attempt to provide a unifying theme for his form of one nation socialism. He also gave his strongest hints yet he did not intend to raise the top rate of tax or let Britain join a single currency without a referendum. However, it was Mr Blair's attempt to play down the im-

lications of a stakeholding economy for British business which drew the most derisory riposte from Mr Mawhinney. "It was the greatest example of inadequate memory that I've seen from a senior politician in a long time," he told LWT's Crestalk programme. Labour, he said, was committed to introducing new burdens on industry such as the minimum wage, European social charter, a right to union recognition after a workforce ballot, and a right to strike with legal protection from unfair dismissal. Mr Blair insisted: "A stakeholder economy is not about giving power to unions or workers's co-operatives or any of the rest of the rubbish that the Conservatives have been saying this week. A stakeholder economy is about empowering people and saying that people have got to be given a stake in the country's economic future. You cannot

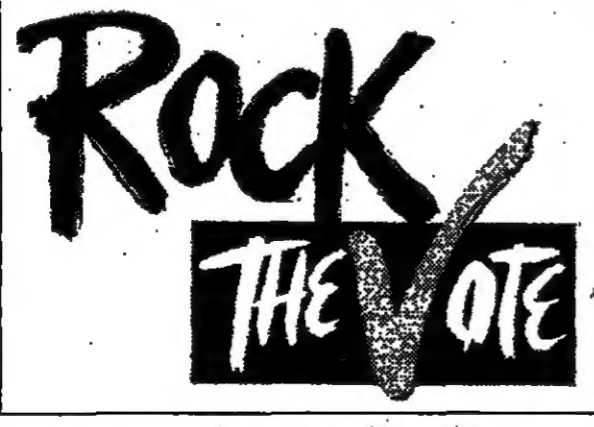
'You cannot move this country on unless all get the chance to benefit in the wealth created'

move this country on economically and socially unless all its citizens are getting the chance to benefit in the wealth that is being created."

Mr Blair said the Conservative Party was disintegrating and unable to choose whether it was a Thatcherite or one nation party. With reports that Lady Thatcher plans further set-piece speeches, there was renewed speculation John Major might face a fresh leadership crisis in the wake of likely disastrous local government election results in May.

In a possibly ominous sign for Mr Major, the Conservative backbench 1992 executive committee has shelved one-time plans to ban leadership challenges to an incumbent Prime Minister. But Mr Mawhinney insisted it was not real politics to pretend there would be a leadership challenge in November.

Leader comment page 8



Campaign aims to raise young people's awareness

telling people how to register to vote and will chase up non-registered people on its 30,000 name-strong database. Rock the Vote will be urging record companies to put stickers on all CDs and urging retailers to have in-store promotions. Pop stars will be urged to talk about it when on tour. "The bandwagon will start rolling very soon and hopefully it will grow and grow as people realise it is a very important thing to support," said board member Charles Stewart-Smith, director of PR firm Luther Pendragon. The campaign has the endorsement of all three largest political parties, as none can be seen to discourage political participation, and a Conservative, the former MP Matthew Parris, is on the board. But Labour is likely to be the main beneficiary: polls consistently show young people are more likely to sympathise with the left, and pop stars, if political, have traditionally leaned that way. Mr Stewart-Smith said: "The music industry has no interest in being seen as partisan and loathed by Conservatives. We know we cannot stop pop stars using us as a platform to espouse their political views, but by asking and getting the support of all parties we have acted responsibly in not taking sides. "According to polls, 25 per cent of young people have not decided who to vote for. The idea is to raise the profile of young people. It will then be up to the parties to decide how they make use of that profile by having policies that win them over." In the US, Rock the Vote was founded in 1990 by members of the music industry as an action group against the threat of Republican-backed censorship of contentious lyrics. It quickly grew into a registration drive and has subsequently become a more general public education campaign, enlisting the help of stars such as REM, Lenny

Kravitz, Tom Cruise and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. An anti-piracy clampdown announced by President Clinton shortly after his inauguration was seen as a thank-you to the music industry for recruiting voters. UK record companies are keen to be taken more seriously in Westminster — in particular they want more anti-piracy legislation — and have been considering forming something like Rock the Vote for 18 months.

Scargill party set for byelection

Seumas Milne and Patrick Wintour on warnings sparked by the miners' leader's breakaway



Arthur Scargill: 'Blair has embraced capitalist devil'

ARTHUR Scargill's fledgling Socialist Labour Party is set to run a candidate in next month's Hemsworth byelection, it emerged last night. Meanwhile, Labour opponents of proportional representation warned Tony Blair that electoral reform could throw the new organisation a lifeline. The Labour leader dismissed the challenge from the country's best-known trade unionist but promised he did not intend to drive the left from the Labour Party. Discussing Mr Scargill's move, Mr Blair said on the BBC's Breakfast with Frost programme that it was about "two different visions". "One is of old-style, state control, nationalisation, collective power of the old sort, whereas my view is that the Labour Party is grouped around a set of values." That was "why New Labour was born". The miners' president in turn accused Mr Blair of em-

bracing the "devil" of capitalism and the free market, and doing more to destroy socialism than Lady Thatcher. He said it was incomprehensible that socialists should want to stay with New Labour. Labour officials, who have been closely monitoring Mr Scargill's plans, are confident there will be no heavyweight party or union defections. Mr Blair cited the miners' leader's departure as proof that "Labour has changed in opposition and will remain changed in government". Labour MPs opposed to

electoral reform seized on the new party as a weapon in their battle against growing support for proportional representation. The party is currently committed to a referendum — saying it could allow Mr Scargill on to the national stage and undermine a future Labour government. Derek Fatchett, Labour MP for Leeds Central and a shadow defence minister, said yesterday that proportional representation led to fragmentation and support for extremist parties, and his PR-supporting colleagues "would do well to bear that in mind when considering the prospects of Arthur Scargill". The first test for Socialist Labour is now likely to take place before its proper launch in the Hemsworth byelection on February 1, in a traditional mining constituency, where the National Union of Mineworkers' nominee has been banned from standing as Labour candidate for the second time in four years. A spokesman for the SLF founding group said last night it was now "odds-on" that it would field a candidate. Membership cards are already being issued and a conference to discuss policy will be held on March 2 after a programme of public meetings. The formal launch will be on

May Day, followed by a founding congress on May 11. "The party is not expected to attract the backing of any Labour MPs or union general secretaries. But several Labour councillors have applied to join, as have half a dozen members of the Rail Maritime and Transport union executive, and its assistant general secretary. Activists from the building workers' union Uclaf, the public service union Unison, and the Transport and General Workers' Union were also represented at Saturday's meeting. Mr Scargill has set a target of 5,000 members within 18 months, aiming to make a particular pitch to young single-issue activists as well as the disaffected in the labour movement. The most savage criticism of Mr Scargill yesterday came from Ken Livingstone, the leftwing MP, who accused the miners' leader of "opting out of the struggle over the future direction of a Labour government. Arthur does not have a single Labour MP — just a small group of supporters, and quite frankly quite a small group of nutters in many cases." Leader comment, page 8; Scargill manifesto, page 9

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John O'Brien did not deny that many of Leaving Las Vegas's alcohol-fuelled incidents came directly from his own ugly experience. The power of his descriptions, anyway, betrayed the thoroughness of his research.

Ian Katz G2 cover story

4 BRITAIN

# Barristers in court over race claim

Clare Dyer  
Legal Correspondent

**A** BLACK barrister has launched an unprecedented legal action accusing her senior clerk and some of the other barristers in her chambers of race discrimination and victimisation.

Joy Okoye, aged 38, whose case is supported by the Commission for Racial Equality, claims Brian Mountain, senior clerk at Staple Inn Chambers, central London, caved in to a solicitor's request for a barrister with a "less African sounding" name.

The solicitors' firm had asked for a family law specialist with at least 10 years' experience. Ms Okoye, who qualified 14 years ago, claims she was initially suggested because she was the only barrister in chambers who met the criteria.

But she alleges the work was passed to a junior colleague after the firm's senior partner rang the following day and "unequivocally stated" that she could not be used because of her name.

The case is to be heard at Central London county court on a date yet to be fixed.

There is a widespread feeling among the black Bar that clerks, who play a key role in allocating work, fail to put them forward and promote their careers.

Ms Okoye, whose lawsuit is revealed in this week's issue of *The Lawyer*, accuses Mr Mountain in her summons of obstructing her in various ways and "failing to promote and nurture her practice".

She claims that the clerk and colleagues refused to cooperate in reporting the law firm to the Solicitors Com-

plaints Bureau, and that her colleagues humiliated her and tried to oust her from chambers.

Ms Okoye and the chambers have been ordered by a High Court judge to go to arbitration over colleagues' alleged attempt to force her out. The arbitration has been set for next March.

After an altercation last August between Ms Okoye and some of her colleagues, a High Court judge ordered both sides not to "assault, molest, or otherwise interfere" with each other.

Neither Ms Okoye nor the chambers would comment on the case.

The Bar's law school, which consistently fails a higher proportion of black than white students, is to mount a three-year programme to avoid a formal investigation by the Commission for Racial Equality.

The CRE threatened an investigation after results from the Inns of Court School of Law for 1991/92 showed that 45 per cent of blacks failed, compared with only 16 per cent of whites.

In 1994 the school's own independent inquiry found no evidence of discrimination but said black students suffered from "a collapse of confidence" and felt "isolated, inadequate and socially and financially handicapped".

The disparity in exam results has since narrowed. Last year 25 per cent of blacks failed, compared with 10 per cent of whites.

Under a 14-point agreement with the CRE, published today, the Council of Legal Education, which runs the school, will carry out further research and the school agreed to meet CRE officials every six months to appraise progress.



Ranger Trevor Appleton at work shoring up the coastline at Bantam Beach. The South Devon Heritage Coast Service has appealed to families to bring their old Christmas trees to the seaside to help stem the erosion caused by winter storms and summer visitors  
PHOTOGRAPH: J.R. REDMAN

## Branson heads for Morocco lift-off

Owen Bowcott

**T**HE Virgin tycoon Richard Branson flies to Morocco tomorrow to launch his attempt on one of the last unclaimed aviation records: non-stop circumnavigation of the globe by balloon.

With the veteran Swedish balloonist Per Lindstrand and Rory McCarthy, Mr Branson plans to take off from Marrakesh on Wednesday on a flight of up to 18 days that will carry them over three oceans and about 90 countries.

Riding the high-altitude jetstreams from west to east at up to 250 mph, their 174ft high Virgin Global Challenger balloon with pressurised and heated cabin is expected to ascend more than seven miles.

Mr Branson, who has crossed the Atlantic and Pacific by balloon with Mr Lindstrand, is understood to have rewritten his will

for his latest record-breaking bid. His company has insured his life for £31.5 million.

At the end of their transatlantic flight in 1987, the two nearly drowned when their balloon ditched in the sea off Ireland.

The only way the balloonists can influence their course is by ascending or descending into air currents flowing in different directions. Branson's team will be guided by a meteorologist on the ground.

A rival for the round-the-world title, Dutch helicopter pilot Henk Brink, aged 52, has been waiting since November for the right conditions to launch his 200ft Unicef Flyer from Nijmegen in the Netherlands. He may launch as early as Thursday.

The American millionaire Steve Fossett was forced to give up his bid after two days last week when he was blown too far to the north.

## MPs' inquiry to put lottery jackpots under scrutiny

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

**T**HE National Lottery is to be the subject of a full-scale inquiry by the National Heritage select committee, its chairman Gerald Kaufman announced yesterday.

Mr Kaufman — known for running quick pertinent inquiries — made the decision after the spate of criticisms about the running of the lottery by its organiser, Camelot.

The lottery at the weekend again failed to find a big winner, ensuring another rollover and a top potential prize of £20 million. Last week the jackpot prize of £42 million was handed to three winners.

Churchmen, politicians and charities have called for a cap on prizes but Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, has refused to respond, saying the large prizes are due to the lottery's popularity.

At the weekend the lottery came under further criticism when the Observer claimed

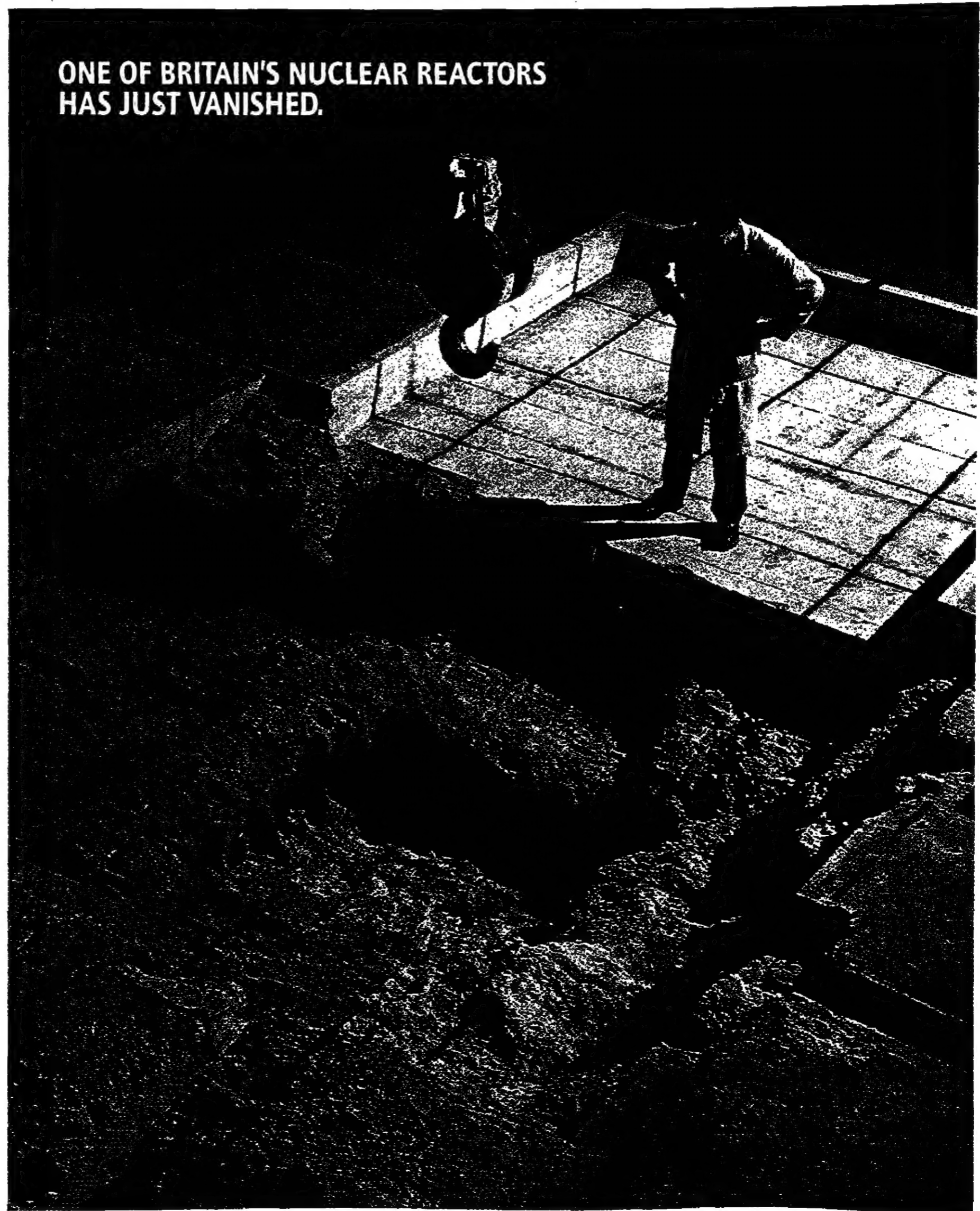
£100 million in prize money had not been distributed because Camelot had failed to meet payout targets set by the regulator, Oflot.

Mr Kaufman said last night: "We have decided to conduct an inquiry into the lottery but we have not decided on the scope or when it will take place."

However, the inquiry is bound to cover areas of greatest public concern — the size of the jackpot, the way the cash is shared among good causes, and Camelot's profits.

There has been criticism that too much good causes money has been concentrated on prestige arts projects in London at the expense of smaller projects in the regions. There is also concern that some ministers would like lottery income used for public spending, which the Government promised would not happen.

• Saturday's winning numbers were 31, 32, 42, 21, 29 and 34. The bonus number was 25. Twelve people matched five balls and the bonus ball to win £321,483 while 455 matched five to win £5,289.



ONE OF BRITAIN'S NUCLEAR REACTORS HAS JUST VANISHED.

It used to stand here and now it's gone. For thirty years, the Universities of Manchester and Liverpool's research reactor stood on this spot. But not anymore.

The mind boggles. Who could walk off with 500 tonnes of nuclear reactor?

Who would have such technology, and know-how? There's only one possible answer. Yes, it was us.

The 'hot' reactor core was cooled and we took it apart. The radioactive fuel elements

were packed in 20 tonne steel flasks and sent to be reprocessed.

From the core to the outer shielding, the reactor was taken to bits and components disposed of safely in the appropriate waste storage facilities.

Even the building has been dismantled and the two acre site will soon be available for commercial or industrial development.

BNFL is currently involved in many decommissioning projects around the world,

involving reactors, fuel production plants, reprocessing plants, storage ponds and silos, and the recovery of radioactive materials for safe storage.

These facilities — very different from one another — all need to be decommissioned safely, just as the Universities' Reactor has been. Decommissioning this reactor was something some people might think couldn't be done. The people who did it are BNFL. To find out more about what we do and

how we do it, please come and see us at the Sellafield Visitors Centre in Cumbria.

Or if you would like to receive further information, please write to Corporate Communications, BNFL, Risley Warrington, Cheshire WA3 6AS.



**In tomorrow's new-look Guardian Education**

Merger mania: exploring the mega university of the future; the great debate on school selection; free holidays for teachers and the latest in IT.

Schools resources: the Italian political crisis, France after the riots and the alcoholic lemonade row. Inside Out: the flywheel tram.

سكنا من الاجل





Papua rebels in Indonesia urge bishop to mediate

Hunger weakens kidnapped Britons

John Aglionby in Jakarta

HUNGER and ill-health are weakening the four British hostages kidnapped a week ago by separatist guerrillas in Irian Jaya, the Indonesian part of the island of New Guinea. Their captors have asked for a bishop and three priests to be flown into the jungle to negotiate their release.

One freed hostage, Yacobus Wandiba, told the Antara news agency by radio yesterday morning that the health of the 18 remaining hostages was deteriorating. He said they need food and medicine and have been split up to hinder detection by the hundreds of Indonesian soldiers searching for them.

Catholic Bishop Munninghoff and three priests to be flown to him to negotiate an end to the crisis. But an Indonesian military source said armed forces in the area, jointly led by President Suharto's son-in-law, Brigadier-General Prabowo Subianto, would not negotiate with the OPM because kidnapping was a criminal offence.

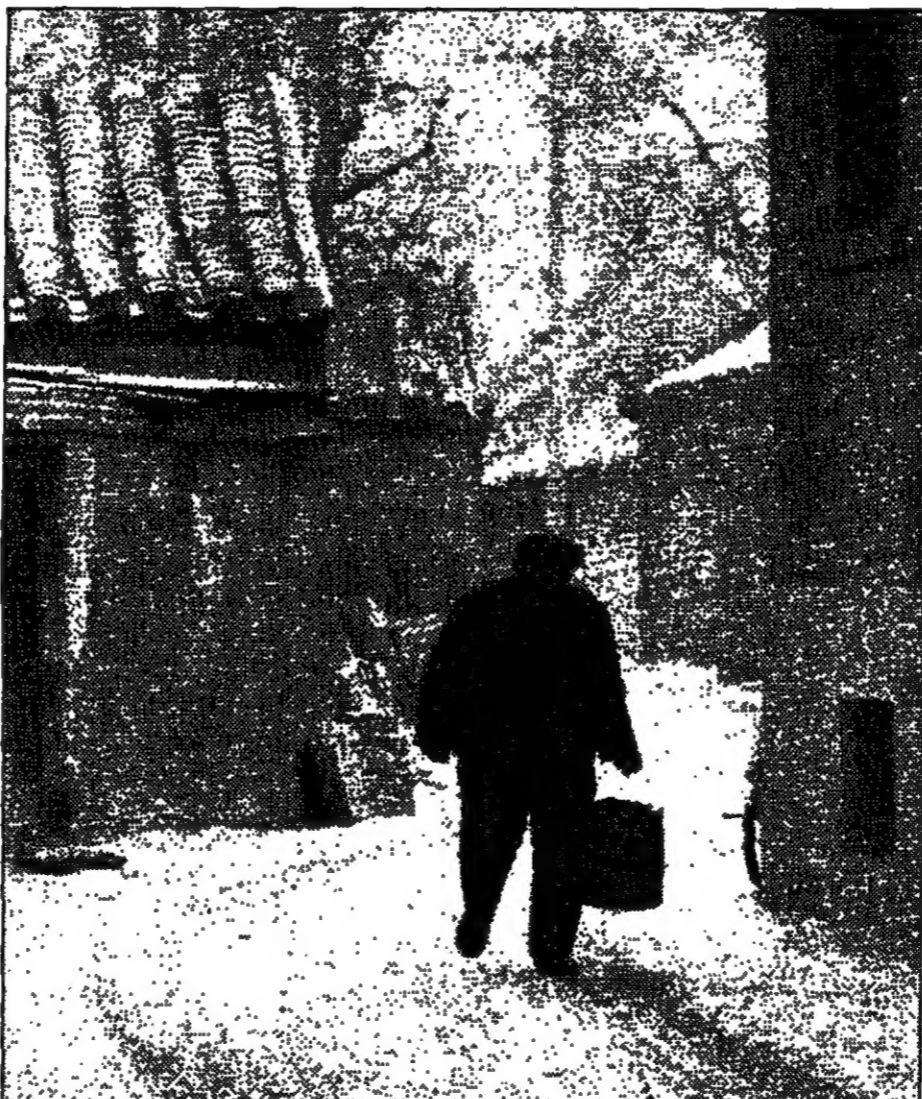


Hammer and hongs... Demolition men work in front of a new block in one of the vanishing areas of narrow lanes (below) and communal courtyards

Horizontal city loses its secret courtyard life

As booming Beijing reaches for the sky, its maze-like old quarters are being swept away, writes Rone Tempest

THE possessor of a Chinese courtyard, wrote the eccentric American scholar George Kates in his memoirs of life in Beijing before the second world war, "possesses both by day and night a well of light, which the seasons endlessly fill with incalculable riches."



Qinghua University. "For the rest, I think it will be hopeless." In fact they have been disappearing for a long time, suffering not a swift execution but a "death of a thousand cuts". Their fate was essentially sealed when the Qing Dynasty collapsed in 1911, compelling the mainly Manchu families that occupied them.

Mexico massacre arrests ignore top-level suspects

Phil Gannon in Mexico City

THE arrest of four former high-ranking officials of the Mexican state of Guerrero has failed to satisfy human rights organisations demanding the identification and prosecution of more senior figures allegedly behind the massacre of 17 unarmed peasants on June 28 last year.

The list of officials mentioned in the commission's 380-page report "is much more extensive than these four... there are others who are implicated but who have not been arrested as the CNDH recommended."

re were reacting spontaneously and could not be controlled. Since the publication of the CNDH report, attention has also focused on the role of Mario Arturo Acosta Chaparro, now a general in the army, who some witnesses say was at the scene of the massacre.

Boycott leaves Nigerians kicking their heels

Abacha's order not to defend the African title could backfire in this football-mad country, Cindy Shiner in Lagos writes

FOR some Nigerians dreams are made in classrooms. For others, like Bashua Oyekami, they are made at the Ijola Crossway Bridge.

Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight others were executed in November for the killings of four Ogoni chiefs. The Confederation of African Football gave Gen Abacha until kick-off on Saturday to change his mind. He refused, despite the pleas of fellow generals, business leaders and footballers — all left to watch South Africa beat Cameroon at the start of three weeks of competition without the reigning champions.

News in brief

Bahraini exiles fear expulsion A London-based opposition group said yesterday it fears the Bahraini government is asking Britain to deport people seeking asylum in London from this small island state.

Dying shame Shigeo Nishimura, the top investigator into a cover-up of Japan's worst nuclear accident, killed himself out of shame and fear of failure, police and media reports said yesterday. — Reuter.

Call-up in Sudan Sudan's eastern Gaderif state has declared a general mobilisation to confront attacks from Ethiopian troops, the official Sudd News agency said yesterday. — Reuter.

Japanese in space Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata gently hoisted a NASA satellite from the space shuttle's payload bay early yesterday and released it into Earth orbit. — Reuter.

Rabin charges Yitzak Rabin's confessed assassin, Yigal Amir, and two other religious Jews were formally charged yesterday in a Tel Aviv court with conspiring to murder the prime minister. Meanwhile, Israel yesterday appointed Rear Admiral Ami Ayalon, aged 50, as new head of the Shin Bet security service. — Reuter.

Funny money The US has launched a publicity drive, complete with telephone hotline, to convince sceptical Russians that new \$100 bills are genuine and will not render old notes worthless. — Reuter.

"Boost your Metabolism...and Lose Weight"

By Patrick Hoiford Most slimmers know the fastest way to lose weight is dieting. But then, as soon as they stop dieting, back come the pounds — often more than they lost in the first place.

The awful thing is that so deep are the values that underpin these customs, most people — even women — don't think they are doing the wrong thing. And as we in the West get more covetous of business opportunities, we are less inclined to get them to take action.













SOUTH AFRICA CELEBRATE A WEEKEND OF VICTORY

Dismal England fall to Bafana Bafana effect

Mike Selvey in Pretoria

ON SATURDAY the Springbok rugby union captain Francois Pienaar went in an official capacity to the FNB Stadium in Johannesburg to lend his support to Bafana Bafana, the South Africa soccer team, who were playing Cameroon in the opening match of the African Nations Cup. Yesterday, in turn, the triumphant soccer team - their name translates as "The boys, the boys" - watched the action here at Centurion Park and their side are going to the football later this week. A close-knit community atmosphere has developed in South African sport and it seems to be paying off. The footballers and the rest of a joyous throng of 16,000 saw England produce a dismal, third performance here in the fourth one-day international. They were trounced by seven wickets, their second defeat of the weekend after a weakened side lost by three wickets in Johannesburg. Bafana Bafana, chasing 273 to win yesterday on a perfect one-day pitch, paced the match superbly and belied their reputation as falterers when batting second. There was little between the sides after 30 overs. But an opening partnership of 156 between Andrew Hudson (72) and Gary Kirsten was followed by a stand of 87 between Kirsten and Hansie Cronje before Kirsten was bowled off his pads for a brilliant 116, from only 125 balls. With only 60 needed, albeit



Cronje gets cracking... South Africa's captain swings into a rapid 47 of two big sixes and one short one

at just under a run a ball, South Africa were cruising. Cronje tried to complete the proceedings in style but was caught by Thorpe at wide long-on for 47 in attempting to reach his half-century with his third six; he very nearly succeeded, too, as the third umpire's video had to be invoked to show that Thorpe had stayed inside the rope by inches. No matter; there were still two overs left when Kallis drove the winning boundary through extra cover. Earlier, England had failed to capitalise on their own century opening stand. That had come inside 53 overs from Robin Smith (85) and Alec Stewart (84), captain in the absence of Mike Atherton - who was no doubt still stunned by his dismissal off his first ball on Saturday, having not fallen to 492 of them on his last visit to the Wanderers. Until Jack Rus-

sell's wonderfully inventive 39 from 19 balls, no one was able to maintain the opening tempo, let alone raise it. Although neither Allan Donald nor Dominic Cork bowled intelligently or well, when the two most vibrant bowlers of the Test series are hit for 72 and 65 runs respectively from their 10 overs each, clearly it is a batsman's game. So if England's bowlers who at fault in Saturday's defeat, letting South Africa out of jail when containment was essential, it was the England batsmen who were negligent here. Nowhere near sufficient runs were scored. Both Stewart and Smith, for instance, responded to the pace in the pitch and batted easily. But instead of capitalising, Stewart swept Symcox, an innocuous off-spinner, gently to square leg and Smith mistimed the first ball of a new spell from Donald to mid-off

when he might have had a ginger first. One or both men should have played the match's definitive innings. So too might Hick, who usually is not making the most of a streak of form that could reduce any attack to rubble in these games. Two effortless sixes were followed by an inelegant swipe to leg and the last hit off stump. No side can expect to be profitable like that and succeed. The weekend of defeat sees England start in Durban on Wednesday needing to win all three remaining matches to take the series. Some hope: this South Africa side are gaining momentum as the World Cup looms and their bowling will lose nothing by the return of Fanie De Villiers for the last three matches. In truth any bowler would respond to the fielding produced regularly by South Africa. Led by Jonty Rhodes,

they have taken ground-fielding - catching, stopping, turning, diving, chasing, retrieving and throwing - to a new level of athleticism. Sri Lanka are to judge an official complaint with the Australian board about what they feel is unfair treatment from the senior umpire Darrell Hair, who "called" their off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan for throwing during the recent Test series. The tourists were said to have tried to charge Hair with misbehaviour after Friday's 83-run World Series defeat by Australia, when he took exception to their frequent substitution of fielders. Kapil Dev has a "0.001 per cent chance of playing in the World Cup" according to the Indian board secretary Jagmohan Dalmiya, attempting to damp down speculation that the retired all-rounder is to be recalled.

The tale of two defeats

Table with columns for Saturday and Sunday race results, listing various horses and their finishing positions.

South Africa were by some standards... The tourists were said to have tried to charge Hair with misbehaviour after Friday's 83-run World Series defeat by Australia, when he took exception to their frequent substitution of fielders. Kapil Dev has a "0.001 per cent chance of playing in the World Cup" according to the Indian board secretary Jagmohan Dalmiya, attempting to damp down speculation that the retired all-rounder is to be recalled.

Racing

Flagship still on course for Champion bid

THE Queen Mother Champion Chase has been won twice by eight horses but only one, Badsworth Boy, has taken the championship three times. Viking Flagship, triumphant for the past two years, is on offer at 6-1 with Ladbrokes to complete the hat-trick and punters looking for each-way value at the Cheltenham Festival should be ready when their offices open this morning. There has been support for Viking Flagship following encounters with the Fitzpatrick Hotel Group Chase, defeating Minella Lad by six lengths. Dermot Weld intends to run Treble Bob in the Win Elector Chase over the same course and distance on February 4 before choosing between the Sun Alliance and the Stayers' Hurle. "It will give me another chance to have a look at him over fences, but he's not a very big horse and the hurdle is a distinct possibility," he said yesterday. Jibber The Kibber readily accounted for Air Shot at Warwick and is being considered by Jenny Pitman for the Avro Anson, successful first time over fences in the Dipper Hurle Chase at Newcastle. Maurice Camacho, his trainer, is no fan of the Cheltenham race, though, and warned that Avro Anson would be unlikely to run unless the ground were fast. Gordon Richards's high-class novice The Grey Monk, another Sun Alliance stable, will run at Carlisle tomorrow providing the ground is on the easy side. Richard has not yet decided on One Man's race, but owner John Hales intends to make an announcement today about the horse's jockey in future races. It will be a surprise if Richard Dunwoody fails to keep the ride.

Nicholson's Martin's Lamp is 25-1 for the Champion Chase with Ladbrokes following his defeat by Big Matt in the Victor Chandler Chase at Ascot on Saturday. Conceding 11lb to the winner, he led at a strong pace until headed after the last. The Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham could bring together four winners on Saturday. Held by Tullow head Go Gallic at Ascot and will have one more race before the Festival, while at Leopardstown Treble Bob, one of the best novice hurdlers of last season, made a successful debut over fences in the Fitzpatrick Hotel Group Chase, defeating Minella Lad by six lengths. Dermot Weld intends to run Treble Bob in the Win Elector Chase over the same course and distance on February 4 before choosing between the Sun Alliance and the Stayers' Hurle. "It will give me another chance to have a look at him over fences, but he's not a very big horse and the hurdle is a distinct possibility," he said yesterday. Jibber The Kibber readily accounted for Air Shot at Warwick and is being considered by Jenny Pitman for the Avro Anson, successful first time over fences in the Dipper Hurle Chase at Newcastle. Maurice Camacho, his trainer, is no fan of the Cheltenham race, though, and warned that Avro Anson would be unlikely to run unless the ground were fast. Gordon Richards's high-class novice The Grey Monk, another Sun Alliance stable, will run at Carlisle tomorrow providing the ground is on the easy side. Richard has not yet decided on One Man's race, but owner John Hales intends to make an announcement today about the horse's jockey in future races. It will be a surprise if Richard Dunwoody fails to keep the ride.

Fontwell card with guide to the form

Table containing horse racing tips and form guides for Fontwell, including race numbers, horse names, and jockey names.

Sedgefield

Table containing horse racing tips and form guides for Sedgefield, including race numbers, horse names, and jockey names.

Southwell (Flat A.W.)

Table containing horse racing tips and form guides for Southwell (Flat A.W.), including race numbers, horse names, and jockey names.

Raider to hit jackpot again

WITH a carry-over in excess of 414,000, there is sure to be plenty of interest in the Tote Jackpot at Southwell today. One for permutations is Nordan Raider in the fifth race, the Lundy Handicap. She beat Croft Pool in this event last year and her stable's recent return to form is encouraging. Maurice Camacho, trainer of Nordan Raider (8.05), struck with the 10-1 shot Fairy Firefly at Southwell last Friday and followed up with the latter's half-brother Avro Anson at Newcastle on Saturday. There are few jumps trainers in better form than Henrietta Knight, and she should be on the mark again with Supreme Lady (8.15) at Fontwell. This well-regarded mare survived a last-flight blunder to beat the subsequent scorer Silver Shred in good style at Leicester.

Fontwell 101 201 301

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Sedgefield 1.05 2.05 3.05

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Advertisement for RACELINE, a horse racing information service, with contact details.

Advertisement for FONTWELL 101 201 301, a horse racing information service.

Advertisement for SEDGEFIELD 1.05 2.05 3.05, a horse racing information service.

Advertisement for SOUTHWELL 103 203 303, a horse racing information service.



Thatto, W Hull put paid to pros

TWO amateur sides, West Hull and Thatto Heath, will go into today's fourth round...

Three tries from Ray Waring, all improved by Mark Cook, put Thatto Heath well on the way to victory...

Leigh and Swinton ran up half-centuries against Egremond and Thornhill but Heworth took Bramley close...

Workington will take the wooden spoon. They lost 20-13 to Oldham...

RUGBY LEAGUE: REGAL TROPHY FINAL



Carry on regardless... Wigan's powerhouse centre Tulgumala, scorer of the game's opening try, is briefly delayed by Newlove and Joynt...

Paul Fitzpatrick sees Wigan beat St Helens 25-16 in a vibrant match where errors were ruthlessly punished

Young ones do Saints proud

JOHN JOYNER, the Castleford coach, sided with his doubts last week about the effect that the 10-metre rule is having upon the game...

since December 20. Their lack of match practice was not a glaringly apparent, although Sullivan was to break down again...

though, about the chief architect of Wigan's victory. Had the Man of the Match votes been collected at the end of the game, the award would almost certainly have gone to the 21-year-old Kiwi stand-off Henry Paul.

Soccer

England go for Robson

Boro manager is FA target, reports Martin Thorpe

THE Football Association will look to begin the task of beginning the middlebrowing of Bryan Robson to become the next manager of England...

Over the weekend he expanded on his reasons for quitting, revealing that certainly, the situation could change...

Celtic stay in title chase

Patrick Glenn CELTIC, still dreaming of their first Premier Division championship for eight years, beat Aberdeen 2-1 at Pittodrie yesterday...

Weekend results

Table with multiple columns for various football leagues including Premier Division, Scottish League, and others, listing teams and scores.

Sport in brief

Table listing various sports events, including Athletics, Soccer, Motor Sport, and others, with brief descriptions of results.

Fixtures

Table listing upcoming sports fixtures for various leagues and events, including dates and venues.

Weekend results

Table listing weekend football results for various leagues, including Premier Division, Scottish League, and others.

Chess

Michael Adams, playing black, drew 27 on the first day of the Hungarian Ladies' Chess Cup...

Cycling

Tony Doyle said yesterday that he intends to stay in office despite being asked to resign as president of the British Cycling Federation...

Golf

Mark Mouland from Wales shot a final-round 68 to finish five shots adrift of Taiwan's Yeh Chang-fing in second place in the Asian PGA Championship in Hong Kong.

Chess

Michael Adams, playing black, drew 27 on the first day of the Hungarian Ladies' Chess Cup...

